

Council Package — January 16th, 2022

Prepared by: Acting Chair of Council – Rebecca Cano

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Agenda of January 16th Council Meeting

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3. Mi'kmaq Acknowledgment
4. Opening Remarks of the Chair
5. Approval of the Agenda
6. Approval of November 28th Council Meeting Minutes
7. Any Constituency, Executive, Manager or Faculty Reports
8. Special Reports to Council
 - a. REES MOA Draft Presentation by Vice President Academic Meredith Cudmore-Keating
 - b. Ad Hoc Elections Review Committee Presentation by President Jack Irvin
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 - a. Approval of the Ad Hoc Elections Review Committee
 - b. Approval of the Winter Semester Council Dates
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Council Minutes — November 28th, 2021

Prepared by: Deputy Chair – Rebecca Cano

Students' Union Representative Council Meeting

November 28th, 2021, 3:05 pm ADT

theU Council Chambers 4th Floor Bloomfield Centre

Call to Order

Naomi: Meeting called to order at time 3:04 pm ADT.

Roll Call

Board of Governors Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

Equity Student Representative – Tiffany Bondoc

Arts Student Representative – Margaret-Anne Gillis

Education Student Representative – Tianna Williams

Science Student Representative – Mackenzie LeVernois

Business Student Representative – Hunter Park

International Student Representative – Derin Deric

Indigenous Student Representative – Molly Burke

Indigenous Student Representative – Sierra Julian

President – Jack Irvin

Vice President Academic – Meredith Cudmore-Keating

Vice President Finance and Operations – Brendan Roberts

Vice President Residence Affairs – Sophia Fabiano

Vice President External Affairs – Ben Fairhurst

Board of Governors Student Representative – Anna Hancin

Vice President Activities and Events – Kyra Tessier

Student's Union General Manager – Sean Ryan

Absent With Regret

Students of African Descent Representative – Atik Gailo

Late With Regret

Faculty Advisor – Brandon Malloy

Mi'kmaq Land Acknowledgement

Naomi: I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the “Treaties of Peace and Friendship” which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with the surrender of lands and resources but in fact, recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) titles and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

Opening Remarks of the Chair

Naomi: Last council of the semester! Live laugh love. Thank you for being here today!

Approval of the Agenda

Jack: Motion to approve the agenda.

McKenzie: I second.

No Discussion.

Ben: Can I ask for a friendly Ammendment for a presentation about advocacy week.

Naomi: The Chair of Council would look positively upon a motion to make a friendly amendment to add Ben's Presentation to Special Reports to Council.

Anna: I motion to make a friendly amendment.

No discussion.

Dhruv: I motion to call the question.

Motion Passes Unanimously. Friendly Amendment granted for VP External Ben Fairhurst.

Approval of the Minutes of November 14th Council

Josh: Motion to approve the minutes.

Dhruv: I second.

No Discussion.

McKenzie: I motion to call the question.

Motion Passes Unanimously.

Constituency Reports

Please see November 28th Council Package for Constituency Reports, expect for First Year Representative Josh Kroker's report, which is below.

First-Year Representative - Josh Kroker

Position Business:

- Attended the three House Hockey Committee meetings from November 5 until November 26. Progress is being made in key areas.
 - First-year students were worried about if they could play on the teams given the number of returning upper students. This issue has been consulted on by the committee and a solution rendered.
 - House Curling may be an attempt to change the dynamic of House Hockey and offer another way to celebrate house pride.
- Met with Sean Ryan to discuss the Olympic agenda for campus and other campaign promises.
 - The approach for celebrating the Olympics and your team at StFX is more of a "steering the boat" initiative. I'll be reaching out to Sodexo and other stakeholders so we can celebrate the Olympics without having it funded by the SU.
- In the process of creating a first-year consultation group. I'm looking for around ten members to begin, but I will, of course, reach out to all my constituents and listen to their concerns.

Other Business:

- In my work with Movember, I did a polar dip at Mahoney's Beach. It was lots of fun, and well worth it for the cause.
- Attended the Chaplain's Prayer Breakfast on November 27.

Executive Reports

Please see November 28th Council Package for Executive Reports.

General Manager Report

Students' Union General Manager - Sean Ryan

- Movember Polar Dip, we had the best turnout in the past 8 years!
- Convenience4U is open now! There are suggestion cards down there so you can help us make the service better
- We are working hard to have DCB available in January
- Selina, our store's manager, is killing it and has brought a lot of great knowledge to everyone
- Mid-year reports: we will be compiling a questionnaire that will be sent out next week
- Your first-semester honorarium also will be sent out soon next week
- We need societies to help with Coat Check at Parents' Night and X-Ring

Special Reports to Council

Library Strategic Plan Presentation by Sandy Iverson

Discussion:

Naomi: As an honours student, I think a wider reach of online documents would be beneficial!

Josh: I liked how you talked about the cafe, but also the collaborative rooms/spaces you plan on offering. Everything in there is what we need, but we needed a space to talk and not disrupt.

McKenzie: I am so excited to see the website get transformed!

Sophia: I really think it is interesting that you are looking to incorporate more staff who are well versed and trained in online resources.

Derin: Since this is a renovation, this will reflect on the student's accounts, do you know how much this will be?

Sandy: There are universities that raise money with students' accounts, but some are not. I wouldn't necessarily propose student fundraising, and this is also way down the line.

Sean: We have a consultation agreement, if they add a levy to a student fee, they have to come to the council to present to run a Referendum. Students decide if they want to add that fee.

Tianna: I really value the idea of putting forth a movement and priority to make the library more accessible, not just in the physical aspect. Having a boundary looked at with a magnifying glass and improved through this strat plan will be beneficial. It will help student engagement in

classes, and I want to put that forth, that accessibility is a huge problem, and even the library making steps to this is awesome.

Dhruv: Thank you for the presentation. Is there any possibility of promoting a green space or sustainability in the library?

Sandy: I don't know what can be done in the short term, other than increasing the number of plants, but I am sure there are things we can do to enhance awareness in the short term. Even if there is not much to do with our actual space. When we get into renovations, including sustainable and green rooms would be good to add to our plans for the long term.

Meredith: You are looking at engaging more OERs, and I was wondering how you all are doing that now.

Sandy: We are pretty engaged with Atlantic OER, but we want to promote this program and get faculty on board with Atlantic OERs. We offer support for faculty, but we want to increase this support for faculty so they can access it.

Ben: I love to see the OER engagement. There is a big role that Atlantic OER can play with the press book site. It allows for information from basically all institutions, so if that can be part of how y'all want to expand that breadth of knowledge, it can play a large role in all of your objectives in your strategic plan.

Anna: In trying to update the space, I think it would be beneficial to run some programs to see how students can come and explore the library and get rid of that intimidation and welcoming students, especially first years. How are you going to promote OER from students?

Sandy: We can increase awareness of the resources we have, we have a page on our website about it, so we can promote that more to students. We can up our game on that. We are trying to get a project off the ground, where the library can house textbooks. We are trying to solicit donations of textbooks to the library for students to rent out.

Tianna: They have a similar program at Acadia, and it was used a lot by professors and students.

Sophia: How would we be making sure textbooks are up to date?

Sandy: I ask the bookstore every semester for the list of books that they order every semester.

Sophia: SOme profs do course reserve, would it be somewhat similar?

Sandy: It would be very similar. It would be short-term only, go to the desk and return it once you are done. We haven't figured out the details, however.

Brenden: Some courses require course access codes, this happens to me both years, is there a plan/way to integrate benign able to go to the library and borrowing textbooks and moving away from these access codes.

Sandy: To tell you the truth, I'm not very sure how access codes work.

McKenzie: With the library supporting OERs, it may help faculty steer away from these access code textbooks.

Sandy: Prior to the pandemic, I started a Cookies and Coffee program, where students could come in and talk with me about the library. It was early consultation that fed into this plan.

Hopefully, I will be able to restart that in the library soon. I want to explore the idea of an

ambassador program. Look for that in the new year, I need to get a fridge first for the coffee cream and get a coffee maker as well.

Referenda Presentation by Nick Murray and Sean Ryan

No Discussion.

Advocacy Week Presentation by VP External Affairs Benjamin Fairhurst, President Jack Irvin and Chair of Council Naomi Stobart

No Discussion.

New Business

Naomi: The 2022-2023 Representative Election Dates: Nominations open Feb 14th until Feb 28th, Campaigning starts March 1 until March 8. Polling would begin March 9 and end March 10.

Josh: I motion to approve the 2022-2023 Representative Election Dates.

Tiffany: I second.

Tianna: I call to question.

Motion passes unanimously.

Naomi: The second-semester council dates are: January 16th, February 6, March 6, March 27. We can approve January 16th, and table the other dates if this is easier.

McKenzie: I make a friendly amendment to only approve the first council date listed, and table the rest for further discussion.

Anna: I motion to approve the first council date of the winter semester.

McKenzie: I second.

Josh: I call to question.

Motion passes unanimously

Naomi: This is the last one. The approval of the 2022-2023 General Election Referenda - what Nick Murray presented on.

Discussion:

Hunter: 50% plus one would have a better chance of passes.

Dhruv: What about 55%?

Naomi: We only have two options, 50% plus one or 60%.

Dhruv: 55% is better.

Naomi: We can't amend the bylaws.

Sean: 50% plus one works the best.

Josh: Do voters have the chance to abstain on the Referenda?

Naomi: Yes.

Josh: Some people don't get what abstaining means. We should get some engagement.

Sean: You can promote the vote and spread information about this.

Nick: That is an interesting point, Josh.

End of Discussion.

McKenzie: I motion to amend the wording of the motion to remove the 1972 Act of Incorporation and replace it with the 2021 Act of Incorporation, along with a 50% plus one Referenda vote.

Anna: I second

Motion passes unanimously

McKenzie: I motion the removal and replacement of the 1972 Act of Incorporation with the 2021 Act of Incorporation with a 50% plus one vote council initiated referenda.

Anna: I second.

Dhruv: I call to question.

Motion passes unanimously.

Closing Remarks

Naomi: Please send me your winter semester office hours whenever you can! The general election is coming up. Please run if you want! However, there are stipulations that come with this. Come talk to me about this if you want to run! You don't want any violations.

Adjournment

McKenzie: Motion to adjourn to meeting at 5:20 pm ADT.

Tiffany: I second

Naomi: Meeting Adjourned

Constituency Reports

No Constituency Reports at this time due to Winter Break and Exam Period.

Executive Reports

No Executive Reports at this time due to Winter Break and Exam Period.

Appendices

Please see all appendix items below in the email thread along with this Council Package, or contact su_dc@stfx.ca to request to view an appendix item.

1. REES MOA Draft
2. Ad Hoc Elections Review Committee Draft